



{In Archive} Fw: Uranium aquifer exemption

David Bary to: William Honker, Stacey Dwyer, Philip Dellinger

04/12/2012 01:41 PM

From: David Bary/R6/USEPA/US
To: William Honker/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Stacey Dwyer/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Philip Dellinger/R6/USEPA/US@EPA

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Good Afternoon All,

Darrin Larson has asked me to forward the inquiry below to you for a draft response. I intend to inform Ms. Galbraith that a response will be forthcoming, however, we may not be able to respond before next week.

Thanks in advance.

Dave Bary

----- Forwarded by David Bary/R6/USEPA/US on 04/12/2012 01:39 PM -----

From: Kate Galbraith <kgalbraith@texastribune.org>
To: Darrin Larson/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, David Bary/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 04/12/2012 11:09 AM
Subject: Uranium aquifer exemption
Sent by: kategalbraith@gmail.com

Hi Darrin, Dave --

I'm actually doing a second story this week, for Sunday's NYT, on uranium mining in TX. (Next week I'm taking a break!)

In my interviews, I've learned that Uranium Energy Corp got approved by TCEQ for a Goliad County mine but now is waiting for an Aquifer Exemption from the EPA. It came from the TCEQ to EPA last May, I believe, and the company & industry say this one is taking an usually long time to process, and they seem frustrated. (See for example <http://www.chron.com/opinion/outlook/article/Inconsistent-regulation-is-a-threat-to-Texas-2418715.php>).

I'm wondering:

- 1) if EPA has any rough idea of when a decision on the aquifer exemption for UEC would be reached;
- 2) when the last aquifer exemption EPA Region 6 issued for a TX uranium mine was; and
- 3) if EPA wants to respond to the complaints that the Goliad County exemption is taking unusually long to process, etc.

In theory, my deadline is 4pm; in practice, since I'm getting this to you late, I can sub some things in tomorrow morning. If that's not enough time, I understand & will survive without it.

Thanks,
Kate

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